Newsletter

23rd October 2026

Marlborough PRIMARY SCHOOL
Engage • Motivate • Support • Challenge

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to all the parent and carers who attended the recent parent/teacher consultation meeting.

Your support and engagement play a vital role in your child's learning and progress.

We have now reached the end of a successful half term. We hope you all enjoy a well deserved rest over the break.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday 2nd November.**

Nursery Open Days

For children born between 1st Sept 23 and 31st Aug 24.

Thursday 14th January 2027

Thursday 21st January 2027

Thursday 18th February 2027

From 4.00pm to 5.00pm

Bookings are available to book on our website

Year 1 History – A Trip Down Memory Lane

As part of our History topic next half-term, Year 1 will be exploring toys and childhood in the past.

We would love the children to bring in any old toys, photographs, or other interesting artefacts from their parents', grandparents' or other relatives' childhoods, **particularly from the 1950s and 1960s**.

These items will help the children explore how toys and childhood have changed over time and compare life in the past with life today.

If you have an item you would like your child to bring in, please speak to their class teacher beforehand to check that it would be suitable to share with the class.

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Half Term

Monday 2nd November

Return to school

Thursday 5th November

Reception Open Day

Parent Association Diwali Celebration

Friday 6th November

Parent Association Diwali Celebration

Wednesday 11th October

Nursery Parent/Teacher Consultations

Friday 13th October

Children in Need Mufti Dsy

Year 4 Trip to RAF Museum

Monday 16th November

Year 5 Fire Safety Workshop

Tuesday 17th November

Year 2 Fire Safety Workshop

School Attendance

Please support the school by making sure your children arrive on time for school. The school register closes at 9:05am

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
93.27%	97%	96.67%	94.53%	96.08%	97.57%	95.74%

Starting School in Hounslow-Reception class

Children born between **1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023** will start school in Reception in September 2027.

You can apply from **Monday 1st September 2026.**

The application deadline is midnight on **Friday 15th January 2027.**

Please read the 'Starting School in Hounslow' in September 2027'carefully before completing your application.

A copy can be downloaded from the London Borough of Hounslow website.

Hounslow residents must apply online at:

www.hounslow.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Reception Open Days – September 2027

Open Day Dates

Thursday 5th November 2026 – 9:05am–10:05am
Tuesday 17th November 2026 – 4:00pm–5:00pm
Saturday 21st November 2026 – 10:00am–11:00am
Thursday 3rd December 2026 – 9:05am–10:05am
Wednesday 13th January 2027 – 9:05am–10:05am

Places must be booked in advance.

Book your place

Book Cover Design Competition Winners

A huge thank you to all the children who entered our Book Cover Design Competition.

We were so impressed by your creativity, imagination and wonderful designs!

A big congratulations to our winners:

Maya – Gold Class
Idris – Lime Class
Agata – Blue Class
Shaily – Cerise Class
Maryame – Mauve Class

Each winner received a £5 **Book Fair voucher**

Well done to all our brilliant young artists, and thank you to everyone who took part. We loved seeing all your fantastic designs! Keep reading, keep creating and keep shining!

Sports Round-Up

We are off to a fantastic start sporting year!

Our pupils have been busy taking part in a range of sporting events, showing fantastic enthusiasm, determination and team spirit.

We entered a KS2 cross-country race, where pupils showed real stamina and perseverance, pushing themselves to do their best and demonstrating great resilience.

Our Year 5 and 6 girls took part in a football festival, where they really showed their potential! The girls grew in confidence and enthusiasm throughout the event and are now keen to take the next step and play in a more competitive environment. We are excited to see where this journey takes them!

Our Year 1 and 2 pupils also got involved in a football competition, gaining valuable experience and enjoying the opportunity to represent the school. Meanwhile, our Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in a mixed football competition, showcasing their skills and working together as a team.

Across all these events, our school values have shone through. Pupils have demonstrated kindness by supporting and encouraging one another, curiosity by embracing new experiences and learning new skills, integrity by showing respect and playing fairly, and resilience by persevering when faced with challenges.

We are incredibly proud of all our pupils for their efforts and positive attitudes. This is just the beginning, and we look forward to an exciting year of sport, teamwork and new opportunities!

cross country runners

Y1&2 footballers

Y1&2 footballers

Children at Marlborough Primary School currently have the opportunity to enter two exciting Christmas card design competitions.

Ruth Cadbury Christmas card design competition

The winning entry will form the front page of Ruth Cadbury's card, which will be sent as both an e-card and in paper format to local businesses, schools. community groups and other MPs. The artist behind the winning design will be invited, along with their family members, to tea with Ruth Cadbury in Parliament.

The design of the card must be in colour, related to Christmas as a universal celebration, and be **handed in to Mrs Perez-Diaz by Tuesday 3rd November**. We are only able to submit a maximum of 3 entries per year group, so our Year 6 Art Leaders will then look at all of your entries and select the winning submissions to send off.

The competition is open to children of all year groups. Complete your entry on the attached sheet, making sure to include your name, year group and school, so that Ruth Cadbury is able to identify the winners. If you are unable to print the document at home over half term, please complete your design on a piece of blank A4 paper, making the image smaller than the A4 page, and the Art Leaders can stick your design onto a template at school after half term.

Last year, a Year 6 pupil at Marlborough Primary School was chosen as the overall winner (you can see her design in the attached image) and Ruth Cadbury commented on the great engagement overall. We can't wait to see what wonderful ideas you come up with again this year!

Mayor of London Christmas card design competition

Every year, the Mayor of London, Sir Sadiq Khan, sends an official Christmas card to dignitaries around the world. This year, he invites London school children aged 4 to 14 to create a design for this year's card based on the theme 'peace, love and goodwill'. They are looking for entries which show scenes that represent the hope, joy and love that Christmas embodies, highlighting the stories and symbols that invoke the magic and spirit of the festive season.

The winner's artwork will feature on the Mayor of London, Sir Sadiq Khan's official Christmas card for 2026. This will be sent to dignitaries across the world, including His Majesty King Charles. Additionally, the winner will have their Christmas card personally signed by the Mayor, copies of the card to send to their friends and family, receive a certificate, and a £100 gift voucher from the competition partner Cass Art, the UK's leading art supplies retailer. There will also be two highly commended entries that will each receive a certificate and a £30 Cass Art gift voucher.

If you would like to enter this competition, please complete your design on a piece of A4 paper, with your first name and age written on the back. Hand this in to Mrs Perez-Diaz in Violet Class by Wednesday 4th November.

Computing Digital Leaders & Digital Deputies

Our Year 5 and 6 children were recently invited to apply to join our Digital Leaders Team for 2026 – 2027. Our Digital Leaders will promote the safe use of technology, learn new skills and develop their leadership abilities.

Working together, they will take on a range of Computing responsibilities, helping us to achieve exciting goals and enjoy lots of Computing adventures across our school!

We received almost 70 applications this year, which is fantastic! A huge thank you and well done to everyone who applied. The effort, creativity and quality of your answers were absolutely outstanding - it was clear how much thought and care you had put into your applications.

Choosing the final team was incredibly difficult because of the high standard of applications. As a result, everyone who applied will also become part of our **Digital Leader Support Team - the Digital Deputies**.

This is an important role, supporting larger projects and visiting classes to help others with Computing. We are very grateful to these children for showing such enthusiasm, initiative and a willingness to take on responsibility.

We are delighted to announce our new Digital Leaders for 2026 – 2027

Congratulations to all our Digital Leaders and the Digital Deputies!

Year 5

Pink – Hamza & Anaisha
Cerise – Erkin & Anika
Magenta – Shaun & Abi

Year 6

Purple – Lilah & Israfil
Violet – Natalia & Remi
Mauve – Deepika & Lucas

Digital Citizenship Week

Celebrating Digital Citizenship Week - October 19th to October 23rd 2026

Digital Citizenship Week is an annual campaign to promote a healthy, balanced, and positive approach to media and tech use among young people.

This year's theme focuses on the importance of helping students become independent, critical thinkers in a world increasingly filled with AI-generated content.

To celebrate this campaign and engage with the messages being promoted at school, teachers have been sharing a range of short, age-specific videos with the children.

The discussion and engagement with videos will help our children to navigate the digital world in safe, productive, and healthy ways.

These resources are created by a company called Common Sense Media who support families and educators to prepare children for success in a connected world.

https://www.commonsensemedia.org/

Pupil Voice
A few quote from the children

"We watched a video about Cyberbullying which reminded me about what I should do if I see someone being bullied online – I should not talk to strangers but I should report what I have seen to an adult." – Lilah

"The videos we watched taught us the difference between different types of bullying that could happen and types of cyberbullying too as this can be emotionally, verbally and mentally." – Aaran

"We watched an informative video about our media diet which taught us how to moderate our screen time to ensure we are being healthy and safe online like we do with our diets." – Myra

"We had a class discussion and used integrity to be honest about how much time we spend online currently. We discussed how much time we should be online and shared strategies about how to stay safe online." – Emilia & Maddie

Digital Leaders Visit Year 1 & 2 to Share Online Safety Story

As part of Digital Citizenship Week, our Year 6 Digital Leaders visited Year 1 and 2 to share an online safety story with the younger children.

Together, they watched the NSPCC's *Techosaurus Saves the School!* and took part in lively discussions, sharing ideas and answering questions about how to stay safe online.

Our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils listened with great enthusiasm and made some fantastic contributions. The Year 6 Digital Leaders were extremely impressed by their thoughtful answers and demonstrated excellent pupil leadership, acting as sensible and responsible role models.

Well done to everyone involved!

The children were reminded of four important online safety messages:

PLAY – Be kind to others online.
PROTECT – Keep personal information private.
ASK – Check with a trusted adult if you are unsure about something online.
SAY – Speak up if something online makes you feel worried, upset or confused.

Most importantly, the children learned that if anything they see or experience online makes them feel worried or unsure, they should always talk to a trusted adult, such as a parent, carer or teacher. Remember, you will never be in trouble for asking for help!

A big well done to our Year 6 Digital Leaders for sharing such an important message and to our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils for their enthusiasm and thoughtful contributions!

The NSPCC's *Techosaurus Saves the School!* video can be watched back here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5KspVdbOA4

A Big Thank You

A huge thank you to our wonderful Year 5 and 6 School Council representatives for helping to sell poppies each day. Your time and support are greatly appreciated!

We would also like to say a big thank you to everyone who has donated so far.

Poppies will be on sale again after half term, from **Monday 2nd November**, so there will still be plenty of opportunities to donate and show your support.

Punctuality Matters

Understanding how lateness affects your learning time

MINUTES LATE EACH DAY	NUMBER OF SCHOOL DAYS MISSSED IN A YEAR
If you are late by the number of minutes below each and every day...	...this is how much learning time you will have missed, by the end of the year
5 minutes	3 school days
10 minutes	6.5 days
15 minutes	10 days
20 minutes	13 days
30 minutes	19 days

Please be aware:

If you arrive after 9:05am you will be given a late mark on the register

Make every minute count!

URGENT: Secondary School Applications – Sept 2027

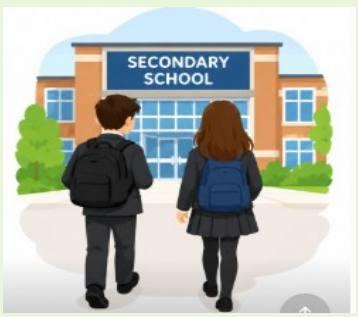
Parents and carers of children born between **1st September 2015 and 31 August 2016** must apply for a secondary school place for September 2027.

Deadline: Midnight on Saturday 31st October 2026.

Please read the admission criteria carefully before applying.

Hounslow residents must apply online via the London Borough of Hounslow website.

Please ensure your application is submitted before the deadline.



Support for family at Marlborough

We know that family life can sometimes be challenging, and finding the right support is not always easy. Whether you need help with childcare, advice about your child or information about local services, there is support available.

A recent report from the Children's Commissioner, *The Childhood Lottery: The Hardest Places to Grow Up in England*, has highlighted how children's experiences can differ depending on where they live. The report is not a ranking of councils, but it does draw attention to the different circumstances children and families face.

At Marlborough, we want to make sure families know what is available through school and in our local community. Here is a reminder of some of the support provided that you may find useful.

School meals: All children from Reception to Year 6 can have a free school meal. This is funded through different schemes depending on their year group. No booking required.

Free Breakfast Club: Our free Breakfast Club is open to all children in Reception to Year 6, from 8:25am to 8:55am. No booking is needed. Drop-off time : 8:25am to 8:40am.

Childcare and clubs: Marlborough Minders offer before- and after-school care for children from Nursery to Year 6. Sibling discounts are available, and we accept Tax-Free Childcare and childcare vouchers.

Support for children with additional needs: If your child needs extra support, our SEND team is here to help. We work with children and their families to understand their needs and provide appropriate support. If you have a concern or are unsure what help is available, please speak to us. You can also find information about local services through Hounslow's SEND Local Offer on the council website.

Staying safe online: Children spend time using a wide range of apps, games and online platforms, and it can be difficult to keep up with them all. Our Online Safety page includes guidance on popular apps and games, screen time and group chats, along with advice to help you talk to your child about staying safe online.

Holiday support: If your family receives certain benefits, you may be eligible for holiday food vouchers and places on Hounslow's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, which provides activities and meals during the school holidays. Visit Hounslow Council's website for information about eligibility and application dates.

Health and wellbeing: Please check that your child's vaccinations are up to date and speak to your healthcare provider if you have any questions.

We are here to help: If you are unsure where to find support, or would simply like to talk something through, please contact the school office on **020 8560 3978** or email **office@marlborough.houslow.sch.uk**

You can also read the Children's Commissioner's report, *The Childhood Lottery: The Hardest Places to Grow Up in England*, here.

Christmas Events at Marlborough

Christmas EVENTS

Join us for a season of festive fun!

Here are our Christmas events from November...

Monday 30th November to Friday 4th December
Reception to Year 6 Gift stall donations.

Thursday 3rd December
Christmas Donation Foodbank.

Friday 4th December
Mufti Day.

Friday 4th December
8.55am to 9.45am
Nursery Christmas Performance.

Monday 7th December to Wednesday 9th December
Reception to Year 6 Gift stall.

Monday 7th December
2.30pm to 3.30pm
Year 6 Christmas Performance.

Tuesday 8th December
2.30pm to 3.30pm
Year 5 Christmas Performance.

Wednesday 9th December
Happy Bag Collection TBC.

Wednesday 9th December
2.30pm to 3.30pm
Year 4 Christmas Performance.

Thursday 10th December
Olive Dining Christmas lunch.

Thursday 10th December
National Save the Children Jumper Day.

Thursday 10th December
9.15am to 10.00am
School choir performance.

Friday 11th December
9.15am to 10.00am
Reception Christmas Nativity.

Friday 11th December
Parent Association Christmas Fayre.

Monday 14th December
2.30pm to 3.30pm
Year 3 Christmas Performance.

Tuesday 15th December
2.30pm to 3.30pm
Year 2 Christmas Performance.

Wednesday 16th December
2.30pm to 3.30pm
Year 1 Christmas Performance.

Thursday 17th December
Class Parties.

Friday 18th December
School will close at 2.00pm.

We look forward to celebrating Christmas with you!

Class Assemblies – Spring and Summer 2027

Our class assemblies are a wonderful opportunity for families to join us in celebrating their children's learning.

The children enjoy sharing what they have been learning in class and showing their achievements with family members.

We are pleased to share our **Class Assembly dates for 2027** below.

Please make a note of your child's class date, and we look forward to welcoming families into school to celebrate the children's hard work and learning.

Class Assembly Schedule 2027		
Day	**Date**	**Teacher/Class**
Thursday	14th January	Year 5 Pink Class
Thursday	21st January	Year 5 Magenta Class
Thursday	28th January	Year 5 Cerise Class
Thursday	4th February	Year 4 Sapphire Class
Thursday	25th February	Year 3 Lime Class
Thursday	4th March	Year 3 Green Class
Thursday	18th March	Year 2 Gold Class
Thursday	22nd April	Year 2 Lemon Class
Thursday	29th April	Year 4 Blue Class
Thursday	6th May	Year 1 Orange Class
Thursday	20th May	Year 1 Amber Class
Thursday	27th May	Year 1 Saffron Class

We look forward to seeing you at our class assemblies and sharing in the children's learning and achievements